

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-32 (canceled).

33. (currently amended) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen having lumen walls, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which is adapted to be introduced into the body lumen through a first access penetration in the lumen wall and advanced along the length of the body lumen;

[[and]]

means advancable from the catheter for creating a second access penetration in the lumen wall and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between said first and second access penetrations, the means advancable also being retractable into the catheter after creating the second access penetration; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

34. (original) A device as in claim 33, wherein the catheter has at least one lumen therethrough and the advancable means is reciprocatably received in the catheter lumen.

35. (original) A device as in claim 34, wherein the advancable means has a pre-formed tip which deflects laterally as it is advanced from the catheter.

36. (previously presented) A device as in any of claims 33 to 35, wherein the advancable means comprises a guide tube having a lumen therethrough and a penetrating element removably received in the lumen and extending from a distal tip of the guide tube, wherein the penetrating element can be withdrawn from the guide tube after the guide tube has been placed between the access penetrations to leave the guide tube lumen as the filament path.

37. (original) A device as in claim 36, wherein the penetrating element is a stylet.

Claims 38-41 (canceled).

42. (currently amended) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which can be introduced through a first access penetration into the body lumen and advanced along the length of the body lumen, said catheter having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough;

a guide tube reciprocatably disposed in the lumen of the catheter so that the guide tube can be advanced from the distal end of the catheter, said guide tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough, wherein the distal end of the guide tube is deflectable;

[[and]]

a penetrating element reciprocatably mounted in the lumen of the guide tube so that the penetrating element can be advanced from the distal end of the guide tube to penetrate a luminal wall in a direction determined by deflection of the distal end of the guide tube creating a second access penetration and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between the first and second access penetrations, and so that the penetrating element can be retracted after creating the second access penetration; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

43. (original) A device as in claim 42, wherein the guide tube has a pre-formed tip which deflects laterally as the guide tube is advanced from the catheter.

44. (original) A device as in claim 42, wherein the penetrating element is a stylet.

Claim 45 (canceled).

46. (new) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen having lumen walls, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which is adapted to be introduced into the body lumen through a first access penetration in the lumen wall and advanced along the length of the body lumen;

means advancable from the catheter for creating a second access penetration in the lumen wall and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between said first and second access penetrations, the means advancable also being retractable into the catheter after creating the second access penetration,

wherein the catheter has at least one lumen therethrough and the advancable means is reciprocatably received in the catheter lumen; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

47. (new) A device as in claim 46, wherein the advancable means has a pre-formed tip which deflects laterally as it is advanced from the catheter.

48. (new) A device as in any of claims 46 to 47, wherein the advancable means comprises a guide tube having a lumen therethrough and a penetrating element removably received in the lumen and extending from a distal tip of the guide tube, wherein the penetrating element can be withdrawn from the guide tube after the guide tube has been placed between the access penetrations to leave the guide tube lumen as the filament path.

49. (new) A device as in claim 48, wherein the penetrating element is a stylet.

50. (new) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen having lumen walls, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which is adapted to be introduced into the body lumen through a first access penetration in the lumen wall and advanced along the length of the body lumen;

means advancable from the catheter for creating a second access penetration in the lumen wall and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between said first and second access penetrations, the means advancable having a pre-formed tip which

deflects laterally as it is advanced from the catheter, and the means advancable also being retractable into the catheter after creating the second access penetration,

wherein the catheter has at least one lumen therethrough and the advancable means is reciprocatably received in the catheter lumen; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

51. (new) A device as in any of claim 50, wherein the advancable means comprises a guide tube having a lumen therethrough and a penetrating element removably received in the lumen and extending from a distal tip of the guide tube, wherein the penetrating element can be withdrawn from the guide tube after the guide tube has been placed between the access penetrations to leave the guide tube lumen as the filament path.

52. (new) A device as in claim 51, wherein the penetrating element is a stylet.

53. (new) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which can be introduced through a first access penetration into the body lumen and advanced along the length of the body lumen, said catheter having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough;

a guide tube reciprocatably disposed in the lumen of the catheter so that the guide tube can be advanced from the distal end of the catheter, said guide tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough, wherein the distal end of the guide tube is deflectable and wherein the guide tube has a pre-formed tip which deflects laterally as the guide tube is advanced from the catheter;

a penetrating element reciprocatably mounted in the lumen of the guide tube so that the penetrating element can be advanced from the distal end of the guide tube to penetrate a luminal wall in a direction determined by deflection of the distal end of the guide tube creating a second access penetration and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between the first and second access penetrations, and so that the penetrating element can be retracted after creating the second access penetration; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

54. (new) A device as in claim 53, wherein the penetrating element is a stylet.

55. (new) A device for positioning a filament in a body lumen, said device comprising:

a flexible catheter which can be introduced through a first access penetration into the body lumen and advanced along the length of the body lumen, said catheter having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough;

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a guide tube reciprocatably disposed in the lumen of the catheter so that the guide tube can be advanced from the distal end of the catheter, said guide tube having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therethrough, wherein the distal end of the guide tube is deflectable;

a penetrating element comprising a stylet reciprocatably mounted in the lumen of the guide tube so that the penetrating element can be advanced from the distal end of the guide tube to penetrate a luminal wall in a direction determined by deflection of the distal end of the guide tube creating a second access penetration and providing a filament path along the length of the body lumen between the first and second access penetrations, and so that the penetrating element can be retracted after creating the second access penetration; and

an expandable anchor disposed over at least a portion of the catheter.

56. (new) A device as in claim 55, wherein the guide tube has a pre-formed tip which deflects laterally as the guide tube is advanced from the catheter.